

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 1, 2010

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2009—10 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2669

Introduced by Assembly Member V. Manuel Perez

February 19, 2010

~~An act relating to water, and making an appropriation therefor. An act to add Section 83002.2 to the Water Code, relating to water.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2669, as amended, V. Manuel Perez. The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006: ~~integrated water quality and wastewater treatment program plan: Riverside County: integrated regional water management plans: pilot program: disadvantaged communities.~~

The Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006 (*Proposition 84*), an initiative measure approved by the voters at the November 7, 2006, statewide general election, authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$5,388,000,000 for the purpose of financing a safe drinking water, water quality and supply, flood control, and resource protection program. Of those funds, \$1,000,000,000 is available to the Department of Water Resources, upon appropriation by the Legislature for that purpose, for grants for projects that assist local public agencies to meet the long-term water needs of the state, including the delivery of safe drinking water and the protection of water quality and the environment. *Existing law appropriates \$181,971,000 of that bond money to the department for integrated regional water management activities.*

Of the \$181,971,000 appropriated to the department, existing law allocates \$22,091,000 for integrated regional water management projects with interregional or statewide benefits.

This bill would express the intent of the Legislature to encourage the department, if it elects to expend the moneys appropriated for integrated regional water management projects with interregional or statewide benefits to implement a pilot program for disadvantaged community assistance, to require a recipient of funds under the pilot program to (1) comply with a prescribed community engagement process, (2) give consideration to organizations with relevant experience, as specified, for purposes of contracting or subcontracting services to complete pilot program requirements, or (3) consider specified methods to provide cost savings for high-priority water-related problems affecting disadvantaged communities.

~~This bill would appropriate \$2,000,000 of those bond funds to the department, for allocation to Riverside County, as specified, for an integrated water quality and wastewater treatment program plan to address drinking water and the wastewater needs of disadvantaged communities in the unincorporated areas of Riverside County. The bill would require the plan to primarily address arsenic contamination of drinking water and would prescribe other requirements for the plan.~~

Vote: majority. Appropriation: ~~yes~~-no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. Section 83002.2 is added to the Water Code, to*
2 *read:*

3 *83002.2. If the department elects to expend any of the funds*
4 *described in clause (iii) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (3) of*
5 *subdivision (b) of Section 83002 to implement a pilot program for*
6 *disadvantaged community assistance, it is the intent of the*
7 *Legislature to encourage the department to require a recipient of*
8 *funds under the pilot program to do any of the following:*

9 *(a) Implement a community engagement process that includes*
10 *consultation with appropriate stakeholders, including, but not*
11 *limited to, the county in which the project is located, local*
12 *environmental health departments, tribes with existing or ancestral*
13 *land within or adjacent to the region's boundaries,*
14 *community-based organizations, and representatives of*

1 *disadvantaged communities, and other appropriate entities with*
2 *experience or interest in drinking water and wastewater*
3 *infrastructure and other water-related issues affecting*
4 *disadvantaged communities.*

5 *(b) For purposes of contracting or subcontracting services to*
6 *complete pilot program requirements, give consideration to*
7 *nonprofit organizations or other organizations with relevant*
8 *experience in the region in which the project is located.*

9 *(c) Consider methods that provide cost savings for high-priority*
10 *water-related problems affecting disadvantaged communities,*
11 *including consolidation of community water systems, wastewater*
12 *systems, and flood systems, and steps to implement consolidation*
13 *of those systems, where appropriate and feasible.*

14 ~~SECTION 1. (a) Of the funds made available for the purposes~~
15 ~~of Section 75026 of the Public Resources Code, as described in~~
16 ~~paragraph (12) of subdivision (a) of Section 75027, the sum of~~
17 ~~two million dollars (\$2,000,000) is hereby appropriated to the~~
18 ~~Department of Water Resources for allocation to Riverside County~~
19 ~~for the development of an integrated water quality and wastewater~~
20 ~~treatment program plan to address the drinking water and~~
21 ~~wastewater needs of, and primarily address arsenic contamination~~
22 ~~of drinking water in, disadvantaged communities in the~~
23 ~~unincorporated areas of Riverside County.~~

24 ~~(b) Funds allocated pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be available~~
25 ~~for assessment and feasibility studies necessary to develop the~~
26 ~~plan. The plan shall primarily address arsenic contamination of~~
27 ~~drinking water, shall include recommendations for planning,~~
28 ~~infrastructure, and other water management actions, and shall~~
29 ~~include specific recommendations for regional drinking water~~
30 ~~treatment facilities, regional wastewater treatment facilities,~~
31 ~~conjunctive use sites and groundwater recharge, groundwater for~~
32 ~~surface water exchanges, related infrastructure, and cost-sharing~~
33 ~~mechanisms.~~

34 ~~(c) Riverside County shall consult with appropriate stakeholders,~~
35 ~~including representatives of disadvantaged communities and the~~
36 ~~Coachella Valley Water District, when preparing the plan.~~

- 1 ~~(d) The Department of Water Resources, in consultation with~~
- 2 ~~the State Department of Public Health, shall submit the plan to the~~
- 3 ~~Legislature by January 1, 2013.~~